

SUBJECT: Attempts to Equate Soviet Missile Bases in Cuba with NATO Jupiter Bases in Italy and Turkey.

Soviet missile bases are being established in Cuba in secrecy, in accord with secret agreements with the Castro regime, and for purposes that can only be assumed to be aggressive. The purposes and conditions as to establishment of these bases are known only to those making these decisions.

In contrast, the Jupiter bases in Italy and Turkey were: (1) established to strengthen the defense of the West in the face of open Soviet threats to employ long-range atomic-armed missiles against Western Europe; (2) established in accordance with a public declaration of the NATO Heads of Government in December 1957; and (3) implemented by agreements freely entered into, under NATO auspices, between the United States on the one hand, and Italy and Turkey on the other.

The Soviet Missile Threat. On August 26, 1957 TASS, the official Soviet news agency, announced "successful tests of an intercontinental multistage ballistic rocket" in the USSR.

Khrushchev was quoted (in PRAVDA on October 11, 1957) on the new Soviet ICBM capability as follows: "I think I will not be revealing any secrets if I tell you that we now have all the missiles we need: long-range missiles, intermediate range missiles, and short-range missiles...".

The first Soviet Sputnik was launched on October 4, 1957 and the second on November 3, 1957. Immediately following the announcement of the first Sputnik Soviet propaganda exploited this accomplishment in connection with its ICBM announcement in an obvious effort to intimidate the Free World.

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Free World Reaction

Acutely conscious of the threat posed to its security, the Free World determined to strengthen its defenses and its cooperative arrangements for security. The Heads of Government of the fifteen NATO countries met in Paris in December of 1957 to consider the grave situation posed by this Soviet threat. The Communiqué issued by the Heads of Government at the end of their meeting took note of the introduction into the Soviet armed forces of the most modern and destructive weapons, including missiles of all kinds. It stated that, as long as the Soviet Union persisted in its attitude, NATO was resolved to achieve the most effective defensive strength taking into account the most recent developments in weapons and techniques.

The Heads of Government Communiqué further stated: "In view of the present Soviet policies in the field of new weapons, the Council has ... decided that intermediate range ballistic missiles will have to be put at the disposal of the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe." These weapons, the Heads of Government added, would be deployed "in conformity with NATO defense plans and in agreement with the states directly concerned."

Bases in Italy and Turkey

The decisions to establish Jupiter bases in Italy and Turkey were incorporated in agreements between the Government of the United States on the one hand, and the Governments of Italy and Turkey on the other. In both cases the press was informed of the fact of these agreements. The Italian agreement was reached in March, 1959, the Turkish agreement in October, 1959. These agreements provided that the missiles to be based in these two countries would be at the disposal of SACEUR, both in peace and war. The decision to launch would be taken by SACEUR only in agreement with the Governments of the United States and the site country. Warheads

for these missiles would remain in the custody of the United States custodial units established for this purpose.

Summary

These agreements were reached by the Governments concerned in fulfillment of the unanimous and publicly affirmed decision of the NATO Heads of Government. They were freely entered into by governments conscious of the need for collective security, in accordance with the right of individual and collective self-defense recognized in Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations. The contrast with the secretly-emplaced Soviet missile bases in Cuba is self-evident.